

# Substance Abuse Prevention

## Environmental Prevention Needs Assessment Workbook SFY2014



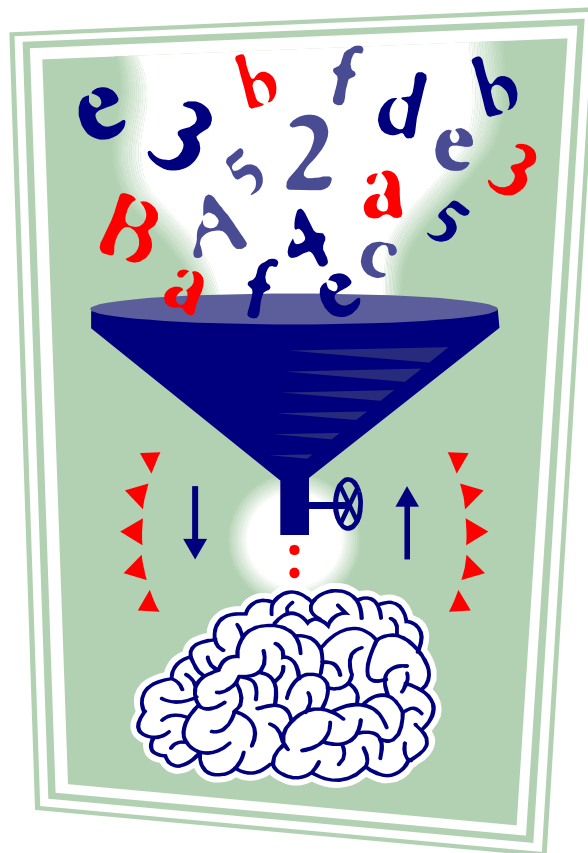
## Part 3 Analysis & Recommendations DII Daniels County

Version 1  
August 2013

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS – Part 3**

<b>PROBLEMS .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>A. Consequences .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>B. Consumption.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>C. Risk Factors .....</b>	<b>9</b>
 <b>CAUSAL AREAS .....</b>	 <b>11</b>
<b>A. Retail Availability .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>B. Criminal Justice .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>C. Social Availability .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>D. Promotion.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>E. School Policies.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>F. Medical Field Information .....</b>	<b>24</b>
 <b>PRIORITIZATION .....</b>	 <b>25</b>
 <b>FINAL QUESTION .....</b>	 <b>28</b>

# Problems



**Task One:**  
**Explore Consequence and Consumption Data in Your Community**  
**in Order to Identify What Problems are of Greatest Concern**

## CONSEQUENCES – PART 3

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Alcohol-related consequences are defined as the social, economic and health problems associated with binge drinking. This first section looks at the alcohol-related motor vehicle crash data and will help you understand the impact or consequence this has on your community. While it is recognized that not all communities will experience exactly the same impact, the consequence this project is focused on reducing is motor vehicle crashes.

### Motor Vehicle Crashes

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One of the major consequences of drinking alcohol is motor vehicle crashes resulting in injury and death. Drinking and driving have significant negative consequences for Montana's population. Your task will be to use the motor vehicle crash information for your community, rate the data and compare it with the state data using Workbook Part 1 - Tables 2 through 4.

#### **QUESTION 1 Motor Vehicle Crashes**

Based on Tables 2 through 4 and any other local data, how do alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes in your community compare to alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*Daniels County is 1,427 square miles (US Census Bureau) and the population 2012 was 1,811. That is roughly 1.26 people per square mile. The majority of people who live in the County live in Scobey (County seat) and the rest live in very small communities or they live in the country. Like so many of the counties in the area drinking and driving and binge drinking have been a part of Daniels County culture for a very long time. According to the States data, Daniels County is higher than the states average for alcohol related crashes. In 2012, there was a crash rate of 165.65, compared to the State rate at 144.13.*

### Underage Drinking and Driving

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#### **QUESTION 2 Underage Drinking and Driving**

Based on Tables 5 through 7 and your community's own local data, how does underage drinking and driving in your community compare to drinking and driving across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*According to the State's data Daniels County has a higher percentage of students who drove a vehicle when they have been drinking in the last 30 days (20.1) than the State does (9.3). The culture around drinking and driving in the area is that it is very much acceptable.*

## **High School Students Riding in Car Driving by Someone Who Has Been Drinking**

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### **QUESTION 3 High School Students riding in a Car Driven by Someone Who Has Been Drinking**

Based on Tables 8 through 10 and your community's own local data, how does high school students riding in a car driven by someone who has been drinking in your community compare students riding in a car driven by someone who has been drinking across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*Daniels County is significantly higher than the State's average when students were asked if they had ridden in a vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking (40.9% versus 25.3% respectively). It is important to note however, that the rates for both Daniels County and the State have gone down. In 2008, rates were at 48.3% for Daniels County, and 33.1% for the State.*

*This goes back to the social acceptance of drinking and driving in the area. When asked, all of the students surveyed said they knew someone or had ridden in a vehicle with someone who had been drinking. They also reported that they see legal adults drinking and driving and getting away with it more often than not, which promotes the idea that drinking and driving is "okay".*

## **Final Consequence Question**

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### **QUESTION 4**

Based on all of the consequence data analyzed here and your answers to Questions 1 through 3, how is motor vehicle crashes, underage drinking and driving, and high school students riding in vehicles driven by driver who had been drinking impacting your community? Explain the rationale for your response.

*Also similar to motor vehicle crashes, underage drinking and driving is seen as a way of life in Daniels County, with many youth traveling on the dangerous county gravel roads. With higher rates than the State, it is easy to conclude that Daniels County has a larger problem than the State of Montana.*

*These factors greatly affect this small community. When something happens as a result of drunk driving – a car crash or a student getting kicked off the basketball team because they were caught drinking - everyone in the town is affected by it in one way or another.*

## CONSUMPTION – PART 3

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This section looks at consumption data and will help you identify which alcohol-related consumption problems are greatest in your community. Consumption data includes binge drinking, underage drinking and driving, and high school students riding in cars driven by someone drinking. While it is recognized that not all communities will experience exactly the same problems the specific focus will be binge drinking.

### Underage Binge Drinking

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#### **QUESTION 5 Underage Binge Drinking**

Based on Tables 11 through 14 and your community's own local data, how does underage binge drinking in your community compare to underage binge drinking across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*Binge drinking amongst students in Daniels County (27.8%) is higher than the States rate (21.2%). Since 2008, the rates have drastically decreased however, with Daniels County decreasing by 19.7%, and the State decreasing by 3.3%.*

### Adult Binge Drinking

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#### **QUESTION 6 Adult Binge Drinking**

Based on Tables 15 and 16 and your community's own local data, how does adult binge drinking in your community compare to adult binge drinking across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*Daniels County does not collect the data needed for this question.*

### Underage Drinking (30 Day Use for Alcohol)

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**QUESTION 7 Underage Drinking** Based on Tables 17 through 19 and your community's own local data, how does underage drinking in your community compare to underage drinking across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*Daniels County holds a slightly higher rate of underrate drinking in the past 30 days (39%) compared to the State (35.1%). Comparatively, these rates are very similar.*

## **Prescription Drug Abuse by Youth (30 Day Use)**

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### **QUESTION 8 Prescription Drug Abuse**

Based on Tables 20 and 22 and your community's own local data, how does the data about prescription drug abuse by youth in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*Although compared to underage drinking, the prescription drug abuse problem is comparatively low. The rate among Daniels County youth who abuse prescription drugs is 6.4%, compared to the State rate of 3.5%. Although both small percentages, it appears that Daniels County's rate of prescription drug abuse is twice that of the State.*

## **Final Consumption Question**

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### **QUESTION 9**

Based on all of the consumption data analyzed here and your answers to Questions 5 through 8, how are underage drinking, binge drinking, and prescription drug abuse impacting your community? Explain the rationale for your response.

*According to the consumption data, Daniels County overall has a larger problem with underage drinking, binge drinking and prescription drug abuse. A significant factor that could lead to this is that Daniels County does not have a jail facility and law enforcement is very understaffed. They currently have three deputy sheriffs and two reserve officers, who cover the entire county. With the lack of a jail, deputies either have to transport an offender to the closest facility which is up to two hours away or let the person go home and let the justice system take care of them later. This causes a large disconnect between alcohol and punishment, because there are no consequences to binge drinking, underage drinking, or prescription drug abuse.*

## **RISK FACTORS - PART 3**

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### **Perception of Parental Disapproval/Attitude**

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#### **QUESTION 10 Parental Attitudes and Disapproval**

Based on Table 23 and your community's own local data, how does the data about parental attitudes and disapproval towards alcohol/drug use in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*According to the State's data and the PNA Daniels County youth reported that 89.6% of their parents disapprove of alcohol/drug use. This is slightly higher than the State's average of 81.8%. These results support perceptions provided through local key informant interviews.*

### **Perception of Peer Disapproval/Attitude**

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#### **QUESTION 11 Peer Attitudes and Disapproval**

Based on Table 24 and your community's own local data, how does the data about peer attitudes and disapproval towards alcohol/drug use in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*According to data, peer attitude and disapproval towards alcohol/drug use in the Daniel's County compared to the State's average is fairly similar to each other. Over 65% of students reported that their peers do not approve of drinking or doing drugs. This is just under the State's average of 66.7%.*

### **Perceived Risk/Harm of Use**

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#### **QUESTION 12 Perceived Risk/Harm of Use**

Based on Tables 26 through 30 and your community's own local data, how does the data about perceived risk/harm of use in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*Data shows Daniels County fairly even with the State's averages when asked about the perceived risk/harm of alcohol use. 71.5% in Daniels County and 71.6% of students across the State believe it is wrong to drink alcohol. In addition to this however, the statistics go slightly down for students who perceive risk of harm if having 1-2 alcoholic beverages every day; 62.6% in Daniels County, compared to 64.1% for the State.*



## Family Communication around Alcohol/Drug Use

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### **QUESTION 13 Family Communications around Alcohol/Drug Use**

Based on Table 25 and your community's own local data, how does the data about family communication around alcohol/drug use in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*Just over half of the students (53.9%) in Daniels County reported speaking to their parents about the dangers of alcohol and drug use within the last 12 months. This number is fairly low compared to the rest of the states average (61%).*

## Alcohol Use is Causing Problems in Areas of Financial, Legal, Emotional, etc.

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### **QUESTION 14 Alcohol is Causing Problems in Areas related to Financial, Legal, Emotional, etc.**

Based on Table 31 and your community's own local data, how does the data about problems related to financial, legal, emotional, etc., around alcohol/drug use in your community compare to the same data across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*State data suggests only 3% of Daniel's County students perceived alcohol causing problems in the community, such as financial, legal, and emotional. This may show how socially acceptable alcohol is in the community because these problems do arise but are possibly perceived as normal, or many may not make the connection between alcohol use/abuse and the costs associated with that use. The State rate is quite a bit higher at 8.9%.*

## Final Risk Factors Question

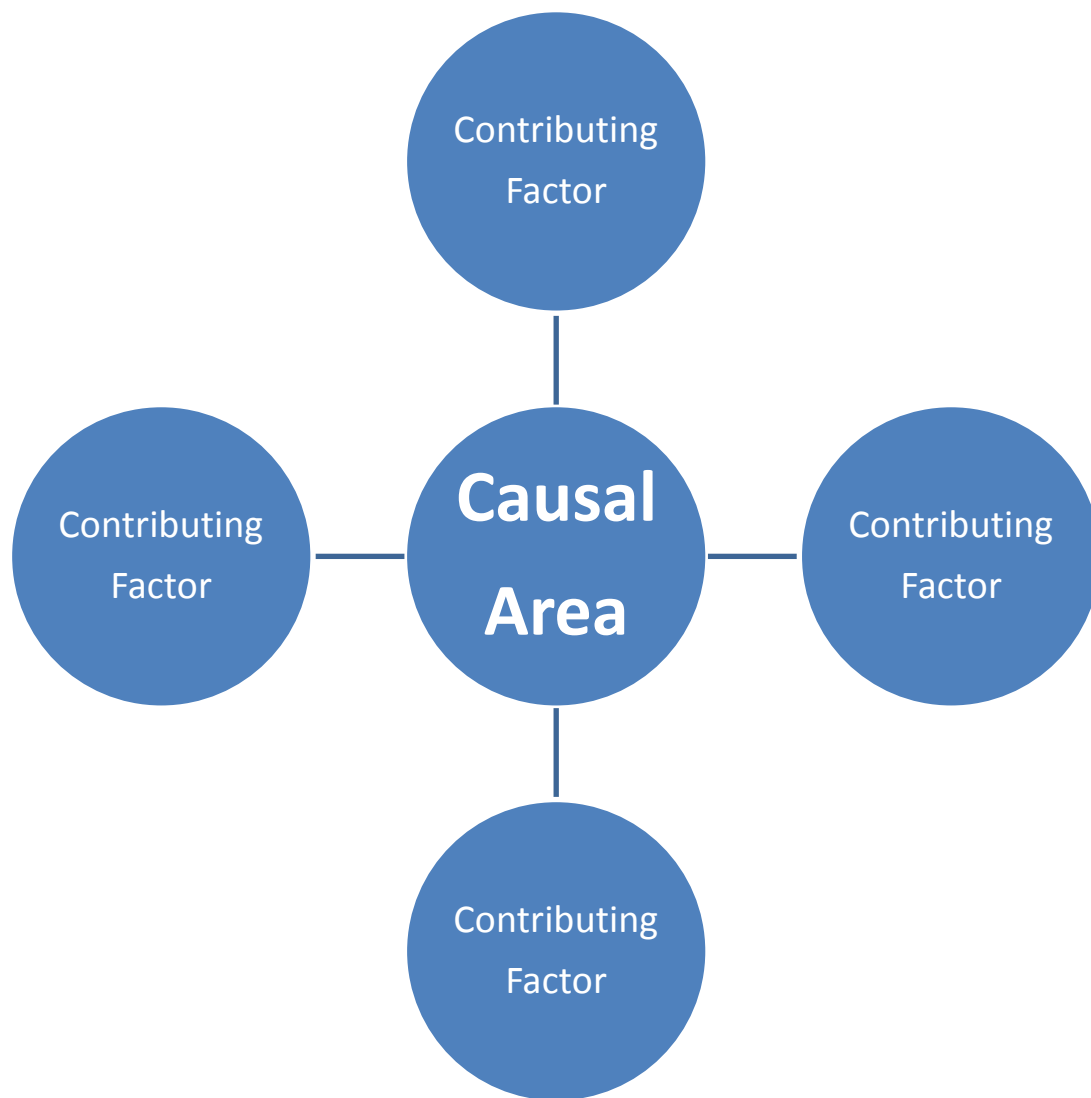
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**QUESTION 15** Based on the risk data collected in questions 10 through 14, how is your community affected by the risk factors outlined above? Explain the rationale for your response.

*Data shows that alcohol use amongst students in Daniels County has decreased dramatically over the last 10 years. But there seems to be a slight lack of communication between parents and students about the dangers of drinking alcohol. This could mean one of two things: 1. Parents do not perceive alcohol and/or drugs as being harmful therefore are not talking to their children about it; or 2. They do not know how to speak with them about it. When conducting interviews many reported that it seems as though many parents in the community do not see drinking as being wrong. They would rather provide it to them and give them a "safe" environment than let them go drinking and drive because they are going to do it either way.*

*The school has been being proactive in trying to educate them on these dangers with special alcohol/drug classes and promoting drug and alcohol free activities as often as possible.*

# Causal Areas



**Task Two:**  
**Gather Data on Four Causal Areas**

## RETAIL AVAILABILITY – PART 3

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### Compliance Checks

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The selling of alcohol to minors or to individuals who are intoxicated can contribute to the misuse of alcohol in your community. One measure of this is the failure of compliance checks by retail outlets. Collect the following data for your community. If compliance checks are conducted by more than one agency, it will be necessary to collect data from multiple law agencies in your community (Sheriff, Deputy, City Police, Tribal Law Enforcement, and Highway Patrol). In some counties, the DUI Task Force may have compliance check data available.

#### **QUESTION 16 Compliance Checks**

Based on Local Data, does the failure percent seem to be rising or staying the same. Discuss the impact this may be having on your community.

*The last compliance check was conducted in 2010 and out of the five establishments checked three failed. There was no data on prior compliance checks available. Since 2010 there have not been any checks due to lack of funds. This could have a definite effect on binge and underage drinking rates going up.*

*However, since 2010 there have been five RBSS trainings in Daniels County and 76 server/sellers/liquor license holders trained. When conducting interviews most believed having the trainings had really helped servers/sellers/owners become more aware of the responsibilities and liabilities they hold in the state of Montana. They feel this has had a direct effect on over-service and underage drinking in their establishments.*

#### **QUESTION 17 Compliance Checks**

If your community does not do compliance checks, does them infrequently, or if residents have no knowledge of the results of compliance checks, how might this affect binge drinking and drinking & driving in your community? Please the rationale for your response.

*In Daniels County, compliance checks are not regularly conducted. This could contribute to binge drinking and drinking and driving in the community, because residents feel they may not be held accountable due to the lack of Law Enforcement and a jail.*

## Alcohol Seller/Server Training

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### **QUESTION 18 Alcohol Merchant Retail Sales Training**

How does the number of Alcohol Merchant Retail Sales Trainings and number of people trained vary over time? Is this trend consistent with the relative growth rate of alcohol licenses and the turn-over rate of alcohol servers in your community? Discuss the implications of this trend for binge drinking and drinking and driving in our community.

*When Montana made it mandatory for server/sellers/ owners to take RBSS training there was a big push to become certified. In 2011 there were 62 people trained, and in 2012 there were 14 people that had taken the Montana Department of Revenue's "Let's Control it" curriculum. Many who were interviewed in the community felt the RBSS Training had a large impact on decreasing the amount of binge drinking and underage drinking in the bars. Because it is a smaller community, Daniels County usually sees a smaller turnover rate among employees in the alcohol retail industry.*

### **QUESTION 19 Alcohol Merchant Retail Sales Training**

If your community does not hold RBSS trainings, how might this affect binge drinking and drinking and driving in your community?

*Daniels County holds regular Responsible Beverage Sales and Service Trainings.*

## Retail Availability Questions

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### **QUESTION 20**

Based on information gathered about liquor licenses Workbook Part 1 - Table 32, alcohol compliance checks, Alcohol Merchant Retail Sales Trainings and other local data, what retail-availability problems might contribute to binge drinking and drinking and driving and their consequences in your community? Explain the rationale for your response.

*The only data available for Daniels County is the number of liquor licenses, which equal 10 for the population of 1,786 people. This is the highest rate per capita of liquor licenses for the entire state, at 559.91 per 100,000 people. This could greatly affect the binge drinking and drinking and driving rate, due to the high number of establishments for the small population.*

**QUESTION 21**

Based on the above considerations, to what degree do you believe retail availability is impacting the binge drinking and drinking and driving and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Explain the rationale for your response.

No impact										Major impact	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	X	9	10	

*Having so many liquor establishments in the county greatly impacts binge drinking and/or drinking and driving. These establishments are spread out all over the county and many times each one has special events and celebrations that many attend. There is no public transportation and it is very unreasonable to walk sometimes several miles back home, especially in the winter. Establishments try to promote sober drivers, but many times the driver ends up being the person who is least intoxicated. With the many rural roads in the county, it makes driving extremely dangerous. Also, the lack of compliance checks could lead patrons to feel as if they will not get caught if they are drinking and driving, and servers and sellers may feel they will not get caught if they over-serve a customer.*

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE – PART 3

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### QUESTION 22 Conviction Rates

Based on local data, discuss the impact the conviction rate may be having on your community.

*According to local County Data there were 9 DUI citations in 2012; seven were plead down to a lesser charge and two were found guilty. There were 11 Minor In Possession charges and 2 open container citations. No conviction rates were given for them.*

*With most of the DUI's being plead down, it gives the perception that even if someone does drink and drive and get caught, the consequences will not be severe; that they will be able to get out of the ticket and get away with a lesser charge. This low conviction rate could possibly greatly decrease the perception of risk or harm of drunk driving.*

*Since there were no conviction rates reported on MIP's and open container citations there is no way of knowing if they have had any impact on the community or not.*

### QUESTION 23

Based on local data, identify any specific type of crime that has a conviction or dismissal rate noticeably different than others.

*Due to the lack of data on conviction rates there is no way to compare one crime to the next. It was reported that the majority of crimes in Daniels County do involve alcohol. Law Enforcement sees a lot of disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace, but whether or not charges are pressed is unknown.*

## Key Informant Interviews with Law Enforcement

As part of this environmental assessment you will need to conduct interviews of key law enforcement officers. If your jurisdiction is served by both a police department and a sheriff's department you are encouraged to do an interview with both the Chief of Police and the Sheriff but consider what interviews would be the most appropriate and informative for your community. Other law enforcement to consider includes Tribal Law Enforcement, Highway Patrol, Code Enforcement, Fish and Game or Forest Service.

### QUESTION 24 Key Law Enforcement Interviews

Based on your interviews with law enforcement officers and others on this topic, what efforts are your law enforcement agencies pursuing to address binge drinking and drinking and driving in your community?

*Law Enforcement is doing the best they can do with the resources available, considering being understaffed and the lack of a jail. As mentioned above, they are giving out citations for drinking and driving.*

### QUESTION 25 Key Law Enforcement Interviews

Based on your interviews with law enforcement officers others on this topic, what efforts are your law enforcement agencies NOT pursuing to address binge drinking and drinking and driving in your community? What appears to be the primary reasons they are not pursuing identified efforts?

*Again the main reason why law enforcement is not addressing binge drinking and drinking and driving is due to the lack of staff and jail facility. This does not mean that they are not concerned with these issues but they are not as proactive as they would like to be with preventing them. Also mentioned above, Law Enforcement completed a round of compliance checks in 2010, but due to lack of staff and funding have not conducted any checks since then. If funding were to be received, this would be an avenue to pursue to help increase Law Enforcement presence*

## Use of Local Ordinances

### QUESTION 26 Use of Local Ordinances

Based on local data, discuss the application or enforcement of each ordinance that exists in your community. Is the ordinance applied consistently? Is use of the ordinance visible to the community? Does law enforcement view it as a useful tool in addressing alcohol-related problems?

*Some ordinances are utilized to address underage drinking such the city curfew for kids under that age of 18. The curfew is 10pm on weekdays and midnight on the weekends. Law enforcement is able to use this city ordinance to combat underage drinking. Law Enforcement has found this very useful, and consistently applies the ordinance.*

*Law Enforcement also noted that there is a local hours of operation ordinance, which is effectively enforced.*

#### **QUESTION 27 Use of Local Ordinances**

Are there ordinances which do not exist in your community but which may be especially effective in addressing your binge drinking or drinking and driving in your community? If so, which ones, and why?

*Due to the high number of outlets for the small population in Daniels County, it would appear that having a retail outlet density ordinance could be very useful. This could help reduce the drinking and driving rates, with less people traveling to different establishments throughout the county.*

*Also, many of the local community events were sponsored by alcohol retailers, so a local ordinance that addressed special event policies could be especially helpful.*

### **Other Local Data: Criminal Justice**

Feel free to consider other local data that will help you better understand how and to what extent criminal justice issues in your community may contribute to binge drinking and its consequences in your community. For example, you may have information on a local DUI Taskforce that exists and its activity level. You may be able to assess information from your local drug courts. If you have other local data, describe the results here.

### **Criminal Justice Questions**

#### **QUESTION 28**

Based on information gathered from alcohol conviction rates, use of local ordinances, key law enforcement interviews and other local data, how might the local criminal justice system be contributing to binge drinking and its consequences in your community? Provide the rationale for your response.

*The low conviction rate for DUI's issued could be a significant factor in contributing to binge drinking and/or drinking and driving in the community. The low conviction rate relays the*



*message that the criminal justice system will not hold the offender accountable, and they will most likely have their charge plead down. This goes on to show that binge drinking, which can lead to drinking and driving, is not a problem. Consequently, this also models to the youth in the community that one will not get into trouble if they are caught drinking and driving.*

#### **QUESTION 29**

Based on the considerations in Question 21, to what degree do you believe the concerns around criminal justice are contributing to binge drinking and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Provide the rationale for your response.

No impact											Major impact
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	X	9	10	

*The criminal justice system is greatly contributing to the binge drinking problem in the community, in reasons mentioned above in Question 28.*

### **SOCIAL AVAILABILITY – PART 3**

Social availability includes the obtaining of alcohol from friends, associates and family members, but it also refers to the availability of alcohol at gatherings such as parties and other social events where the alcohol is provided as part of the event.

#### **QUESTION 30 Prevention Needs Assessment**

Based on Tables 35 and 36, how does student perception of being caught for drinking in your community compare to the perception across the state? Is your problem bigger, smaller or about the same? Discuss the differences.

*Data from the PNA shows that only 28.7% of students in Daniels County believe that they would get caught if they were to drink beer wine or liquor by law enforcement compared to 26.2% of students across the State. However, these numbers are much higher when assessing if students thought they would get caught by their parents-54.9% in Daniels County and 52.1% by all other students.*

## Social Availability Questions

### QUESTION 31

Based on information gathered from law enforcement interviews, public opinion surveys, the Prevention Needs Assessment, and other local data what are the concerns around social availability that might contribute to binge drinking, drinking and driving, and respective consequences in your community? Provide the rationale for your response.

*There are a 10 liquor licenses in the County and that does not include beer and wine licenses; and the ratio between bars to people is the highest in Montana. Having this many bars to so few of people reiterates the culture around bars in Eastern Montana. In some of the smaller communities in Daniels County, the local bar/restaurant serves as the community hub/meeting place as grocery stores and gas stations do not exist. These local establishments, in many cases, also serve food and families will often eat here. Underage youth are exposed to being in bars at an early age, and become desensitized to the alcohol use. Additionally, with many community events being sponsored by alcohol retailers, it is readily available. Many people drink in excess at these events around underage youth, which portrays the message that one needs to drink in order to have a good time. Many of these people will end up driving home, leading to modeling unsafe drinking and driving behavior.*

### QUESTION 32

Based on these considerations, to what degree do you believe social availability is impacting binge drinking and drinking and driving and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Provide the rationale for your response.

No impact											Major impact
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	X	10	

*Having so many liquor establishments in the county plays a large role in the amount of binge drinking and/or drinking and driving in the community. They are the social hubs for many in the County which is why issues with alcohol are so common in small towns/counties such as this one.*

## PROMOTION – PART 3

Promotion refers to attempts by alcohol retailers and the alcohol industry to increase demand through the marketing of their products. Once again, this will require some original data collection to acquire a sense of the depth and potential impact of various marketing tactics surrounding alcohol in your community.

## Advertising

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### QUESTION 33 Advertising

Based on the data you collected regarding the level of advertising in local print media within your community, advertising via signage on buildings within your community and advertising via sponsorship of local events, is the overall level of alcohol advertising in your community excessive? Provide the rationale for your response.

*In general, there is very little alcohol advertising throughout the County. Bars may have one or two signs in the window, and some do not have any. The local newspaper does a great job of limiting the number of alcohol ads in their pages. The few that are in the paper are usually advertising the bars itself and they do not run those ads every week.*

### QUESTION 34 Advertising

Based on the data collected regarding the level of advertising in local print media within your community, advertising via signage on buildings within your community and advertising via sponsorship of local events, how might the magnitude of alcohol advertising in your community be impacting binge drinking and drinking and driving and its consequences?

*As mentioned above, many community events are sponsored by alcohol retailers. Some attendees drink in excess at these events which portrays the message to youth that one needs to consume alcohol in order to have a good time. Many of these people will end up driving home, leading to modeling unsafe drinking and driving behavior.*

*Most other alcohol ads come from social or national media such as cable, the internet and Facebook.*

### QUESTION 35 Alcohol-Related News Articles

Based on the data collected regarding the number of news articles in contrast to the amount of advertising in local print media within your community, how do you think alcohol use is being portrayed? How do you think this is impacting binge drinking and drinking and driving in your community?

*When alcohol is advertised in the local media it is usually for local events, special occasions, or recreational activities such as golf, darts, or billiards. People generally enjoy these activities and it is possible to enjoy them sober but when liquor establishments promote them it is giving off the message that they are only fun if one is drinking. The local alcohol establishments host these events where people are drinking alcohol, and then the patrons will drive home. These special occasions could have a large impact on the binge drinking and drinking and driving rates because of this.*

## Promotion Questions

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### QUESTION 36

Based on information gathered from sponsorships, advertising and other local data, what are the concerns around promotion that might contribute to binge drinking and drinking and driving and the associated consequences in your community? Explain the rationale for your response.

*Although there is very little alcohol advertisements in the community, when there are they usually promote some sort of special event or celebration. Due to the lack of other entertainment that does not involve alcohol these events are highly welcomed and attended. After many interviews the general consensus was that people go to the bars because there is little else to do and when there is something else to do few people attend.*

### QUESTION 37

Based on these considerations, to what degree do you believe promotion is impacting binge drinking and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Explain the rationale for your response.

No impact											Major impact
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	X	8	9	10	

*Promotion is not the biggest factor that contributes to binge drinking and/drinking and driving in the community but it still has an impact on it because when liquor establishments host these events it promotes alcohol and due to the lack of other activities going on they are highly attended.*

## SCHOOL POLICIES – PART 3

### QUESTION 38

Based on information gathered from your school districts, what are the concerns around how those policies contribute to either the underage substance use or reduce underage substance abuse and the associated consequences in your community? Explain the rationale for your response.

*In 2013, Scobey High School implemented a mandatory drug testing policy for any student involved in an extracurricular activity that involves traveling for the school. Scobey's activity student drug testing policy states:*

*The purpose of this policy is five-fold:*

- 1. To educate students of the serious physical, mental, and emotional harm caused by illegal drug use.*
- 2. To alert students with possible substance abuse problems to the potential harms that drug use poses for their physical, mental, and emotional well being and offer them the privilege of competition as an incentive to stop using such substances.*
- 3. Ensure that students adhere to a training program that bars the intake of illegal drugs*
- 4. To prevent injury, illness, and harm for students that may arise as a result from illegal drug use.*
- 5. To offer students practices, competition, and school activities free of the effects of illegal drug use.*

*Although alcohol testing is not mandatory their policies are still very strict if caught drinking. The school is taking a very proactive approach to ensure their students are safe and drug free.*

### QUESTION 39

Based on these considerations, to what degree do you believe your school district's policies and programs in your community are impacting binge drinking and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Explain the rationale for your response.

No impact  
0      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10  
Major impact

*The school's policies are impacting youth binge drinking and drug use by implementing mandatory testing for drug use and a mandatory substance abuse class if they are caught. This is a positive impact on combating underage drinking and drug use in the community.*

### MEDICAL FIELD INFORMATION – PART 3

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#### QUESTION 40

Based on information gathered from local hospitals, pharmacies, and prescribers, what are the concerns around prescription drug abuse in your area? Explain the rationale for your response.

*Prescription drug abuse in Daniels County has increased in the last few years. There are concerns about the misuse of central nervous system depressants such as anxiety medications, opioids, and lastly stimulants. The Montana Drug Registry is used quite often but there is currently no prescription drug take back events and/or prescription drug abuse prevention activities.*

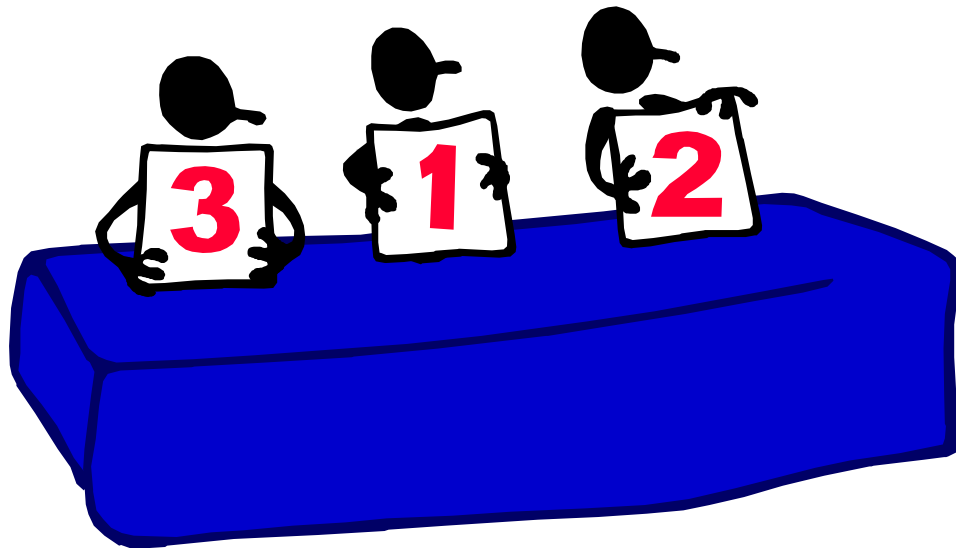
#### QUESTION 41

Based on these considerations, to what degree do you believe the medical field data you collect is impacting prescription drug abuse and its consequences in your community? Place an "X" on the scale below. Explain the rationale for your response.

No impact										Major impact
0	1	2	3	X	5	6	7	8	9	10

*There was very little data reported but when interviewing medical personal in general they believed that there has been an increase in prescription drug abuse and they would like to see more education within the community to combat it from becoming more of a problem. They would also like to see a more drug take back programs in the area.*

# Prioritization



**Task Three:**  
**Rank the Four Causal Areas from the Greatest Contributor to Your  
Community's Problems to the Smallest Contributor**

## Prioritizing

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The next stage involves prioritizing the causal areas. The first step is achieved by placing the appropriate scores from Questions 14, 22, 25, and 29 next to its related causal area. Based on the scores, rank each causal area with 1 being the highest priority and 4 the lowest. In the case of a tie, decide which area is of higher priority for your community in relation to binge drinking, drinking and driving, and motor vehicle crashes. After having completed the ranking, explain the rationale for your rankings on the next page.

The prioritization will be the basis of for determining which combination of environmental prevention policies, practices and programs are strategically best for your community.

Score	Rank	Causal Area
8	3	Retail Availability
8	2	Criminal Justice
9	1	Social Availability
5	4	Promotion
2	6	School Policies
4	5	Medical Field



**QUESTION 42**

Provide the rationale for your rankings of the causal factors.

*Social Availability was ranked number one due to the high number of alcohol available in the community. There are few community events and activities that do not involve alcohol and the high ratio of liquor establishments to people as a huge effect on the culture placed around alcohol.*

*Criminal justice ranked number two because of the lack of resources available such as a jail facility and a proper amount of on staff law enforcement. It also seems like the tickets that are being written are either getting plead down or dismissed which gives the community the idea that getting in trouble is very unlikely and even if they were to get in trouble they can more than likely get out of it.*

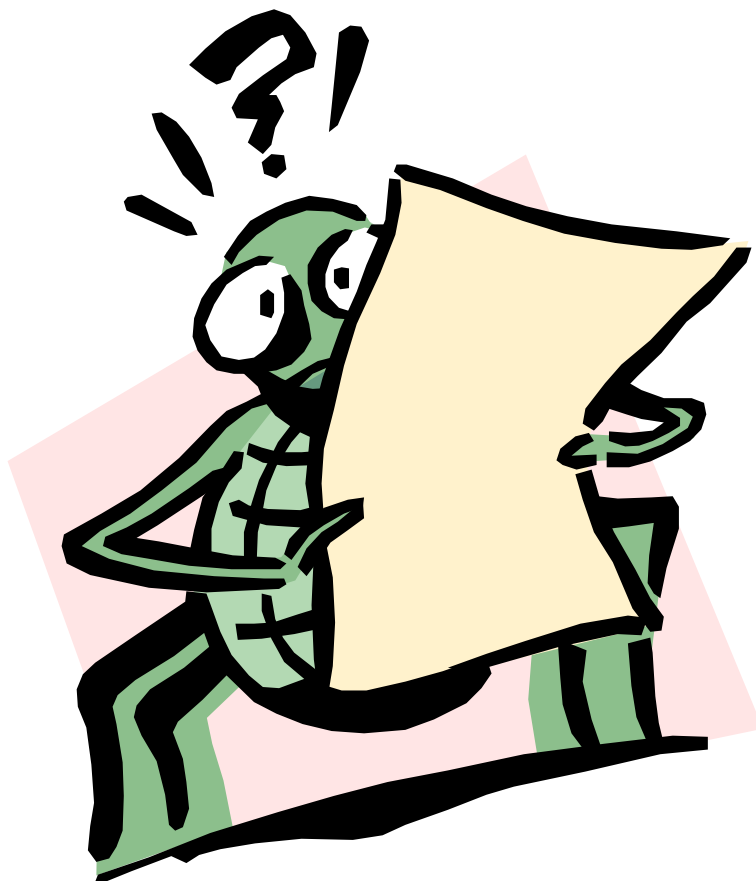
*Retail availability ranked third because the local liquor license holders are more aware of their liabilities, but could also benefit from alcohol sales and service policy development. Law Enforcement would also impact underage drinking, binge drinking and drinking and driving rates if compliance checks were regularly scheduled.*

*Promotion was ranked low, due to the low number of signage on buildings in the community. Although many community events are sponsored by alcohol retailers, in these small towns there are few other local businesses that can help sponsor larger events.*

*Medical field was ranked next, as there was some concern in the community with abusing prescription drugs, but no concrete information. Some of the community members also mentioned conducting more drug take back days.*

*School policies were ranked last, as they are believed to be highly effective in the community. The school has been very proactive, in making drug and alcohol tests mandatory if a student is caught using these substances.*

# Final Question



**Task Five:**  
**Determine What Combination of Causal Areas**  
**Your Community should Target**

## Your Final Conclusions

Now that you have considered the data surrounding your community's alcohol problems, as well as each causal area for these problems, you need to decide what to do. This decision will ultimately be part of your community's Prevention Plan and lead to very specific environmental evidence-based strategies for you to implement. For now, think about your data and especially your final rankings on page 66 as well as your resource assessment on page 69. Also, mull over the possible connections among the four causal areas. Would it be possible to target social availability without also targeting criminal justice/law enforcement? Will changes in retail availability necessarily require changes in the enforcement of policy? Now answer the following question.

### Final Needs Assessment Question

#### QUESTION 43

It is very unlikely that your community can or needs to address every causal area to impact existing binge drinking and drinking and driving problems. What combination of causal areas is most likely to produce changes in the environment which currently exists within your community? What specific causal factors will you target and why?

*#1 Social Availability is a top priority, to continue server education. Many establishments do not have an alcohol sales and service policy, which could address issues such as refusing service to underage youth, how to address intoxicated patrons, education on binge drinking and over-service, and how to prevent drinking and driving. Because of the alcohol culture in many Eastern Montana Counties, many people see alcohol use as a rite of passage for underage youth. More education is needed in this rural county on the dangers of underage drinking, drinking and driving and binge drinking.*

*#2 Criminal justice is the next priority that could be addressed. Although it would may be difficult to increase the number of Law Enforcement officers in the County, the perception of DUI laws could be increased if more DUI's were found guilty instead of being plead down. Currently, the community perception is that one will get a DUI plead down to a lesser charge if they are caught, so there are almost no legal consequences for their actions. By making sure less DUI's are plead down, this could lead to a community change by altering the community's perception that if they are caught, they will in fact get a DUI.*

*Though not rated, prescription drug abuse will be targeted. A reduction in prescription drug abuse problems will occur through educating the public and ongoing drug take back events and educating doctors on the importance of using the Montana Prescription Drug Registry.*